of the baking-powder question is brought out. It is shown that the product of all forms of baking powders is laxative, and the suggestion is made that the laxative effects of the continuous use of breads made with baking powder may be injurious. The objection applies to the cream of tartar baking powder which leaves a residue of Rochelle salts, to the phosphate baking powders which leave the phosphate of sodium and to the alum baking powders which also leave the sodium sulphate. Dr. Taylor says: "Apparently, therefore, at present at least, the use of baking powder is associated with the introduction into the alimentary tract of a certain amount of saline cathartic, the salt differing with the use of a particular type of baking powder." In connection with this objection, the amount of soluble residue left by the decomposition of the baking powder becomes of importance.

Here again, the pertinence of the objection depends on the quantity likely to be eaten. In no case is it likely that a person would consume bread or biscuits enough to get an appreciable effect on the bowels from the laxative produced.

The criticisms with reference to the action of baking powders indicate a tendency to magnify quite incidental matters whenever they seem to favor the interest of one or other manufacturer. Thus the tartrate was at one time highly regarded because it was a product which was destroyed in the system, leaving a natural constituent of the body, that is, potassium carbonate. More recently it has been discovered that the tartrates are only partially metabolized in the system, removing the supposed advantage of the tartrate powders. On the other hand, there is a disposition to emphasize experiments tending to show the power of tartrates to affect the kidneys injuriously, although there is no evidence that such an injurious action can occur from the small quantity present in baking powders. While the objections to alum are unjustified, the physician will do well to inquire carefully into the probability of any alleged injury occurring from other forms of baking powders.—From Journal of Indiana State Medical Association.

THE BACTERIOLOGY OF APPENDICITIS.

"The credit of establishing the tremendous significance of inflammation of the vermiform appendix belongs to the medical profession of the United States which, it now seems likely," says The Journal of the American Medical Association, "is also to make noteworthy contributions to the study of the etiology of the disease. The part played by foreign materials is no longer emphasized, since they are only rarely encountered. Even fecal concretions, which were formerly charged with responsibility for a large percentage of attacks, are now regarded as being produced within the appendix itself, rather than entering this organ from the cecum. Despite the fact that concretions and foreign bodies are always a menace and are capable of initiating destructive as well as irritating effects on the mucosa, the chief interest in the etiology of appendicitis at the present moment centers in its bacteriology.

"The preponderant micro-organism found in cases of appendicitis is undoubtedly the colon bacillus. Sometimes it is present in pure culture; frequently it is associated with other organisms such as streptococci or staphylococci. The majority of cases appear to represent a mixed infection. It has been assumed as probable by some writers that the milder cases with more definitely localized peritonitis and relatively benign clinical symptoms are principally due to colon infection, while the more intense cases are of streptococcic or anaerobic nature.

"Dr. E. C. Rosenow of the Memorial Institute for Infectious Diseases, Chicago, has thrown some light on the development of appendicitis by a careful differential bacteriologic study of the fluids and tissues in and about the appendix and of the tonsils and other possible foci of infection, together with introduction of the isolated strains of micro-organisms into animals. In the lumen of the appendix the colon bacillus was always found in predominating numbers, whereas the cultures from the wall showed that the chief bacteria there were streptococci. The nature of the bacterial flora of the tonsils in the different cases was not so characteristic, though streptococci were found in all.

"Rosenow's experiments indicate that, in the absence of foreign bodies, appendicitis commonly is a hematogenous infection, secondary to some distant focus like the tonsil. The striking feature is the demonstration that the disease develops when for some reason the organisms in this focus, usually streptococci, have acquired an elective affinity for the appendix and at the same time gain entrance into the circulation. In animal injections the tonsillar strains of micro-organisms from human cases produced appendicitis in nineteen of twenty-nine, the appendix strains in twenty-two of thirty—a total of forty-one out of fifty-nine trials. In further accord with the view advanced is the observation that after cultivation on artificial mediums for a short time the elective affinity is soon lost, and strains isolated from human tonsils some time after appendectomy also appear without elective affinity. The colon bacillus is to be regarded in most cases as a secondary invader, because it is found both by cultures and in sections either in decreasing numbers from the lumen outward, or is displaced entirely by streptococci. Experimentally, it appears to be almost impossible to produce appendicitis by intravenous injection of colon bacilli without injuring the mucous membrane."

NEW MEMBERS.

Grazer, Fred'k A., Sacramento. Cal.
Hale, Nathan George, Sacramento.
Rice, A. Le Roy, San Diego.
Sandal, L. B., San Diego.
Bartholemew, J. N., Santa Ana.
Jones, E. L., Huntington Beach, Cal.
Ransom, D. H., Madera.
Couey, E. J., Fresno.
Morris, J. K., Belmont, Cal.
Harvey, C. W., Anaheim.
Dillon, G. Parker, Sacramento.
Wegefarth, Paul, San Diego.
Bailey, Chas. H., San Francisco.
Wier, Thos. F., San Diego.
Cummings, Jesse Carl, Sacramento, Cal.
Sanders, Audley, Lemoore, Cal.
Allen, John, Raymond, Cal.
Thomas, F. W., Claremont, Cal.
McKillop, J. Edwin, Huntington Beach, Cal.
Bishop, F. W., Los Angeles.
Rinkenberger, F. W., Los Angeles.
Stadtmuller, Ellen S., San Francisco.

DEAD.

Meharry, J. S., Los Angeles.
Smiley, Walter Carl, Beaumont, Cal. (Died in Pasadena, Cal.)
Robinson, Frank Neal, Monrovia.
Troxell, F. P., Chino, Cal.
Newman, De Witt Clinton (died in Spokane, Wash.).
Hale, George V., Los Angeles.
Eldridge, John R., Berkeley.
Himmelsbach, Wm., Watsonville, Cal.
Rosenthal, Charles H., San Francisco.
Johnstone, E. R., Morro, Cal.
Wheeler, Jessie (died in Salinas, Kansas).
Oakley, Hewlitt Whitty, Porterville, Cal.
Marshall, Ben (died in New Jersey).